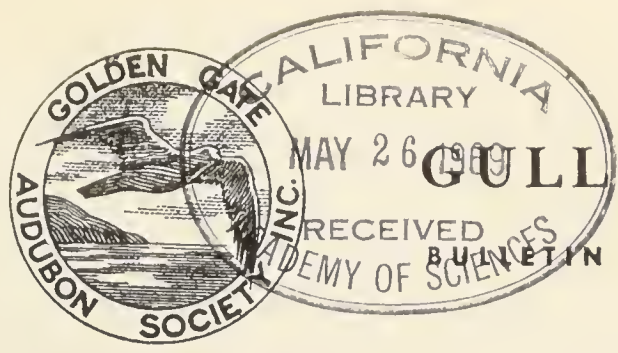


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GOLDEN GATE AUDUBON DINNER—JUNE 12

Mrs. E. A. Parkinson, President of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society, will be our guest speaker at the annual Golden Gate Audubon dinner at the Helmet Club, Berkeley, on **Thursday, June 12**. "Channel Catastrophe" is the title of her illustrated talk covering the experiences of the Santa Barbara Audubon Society in coping with the recent oil disaster problems.

This annual dinner meeting will include election of officers for 1969/70; Miss Elizabeth McClave is Chairman of the Nominating Committee.

Preceding the dinner we shall have a social hour from **6 to 6:45** at our Audubon Nature Training Center in Aquatic Park, where Phyllis Lindley and her school volunteers will demonstrate some of their nature training techniques. The Audubon Nature Training Program received national recognition at the Audubon Convention in St. Louis in April.

Dinner will begin at **6:45** at the Helmet club on Bolivar Drive at the foot of Addison Street in Berkeley's Aquatic Park. (This is the north end of the Park; the Nature Training Center is at the south end.) The full dinner price will be \$4 per person and the **reservation deadline will be Monday, June 9**. For reservations write Mrs. Walter Olds, 131 Bret Harte Rd., Berkeley 94708 (848-1407 evenings). Please clip or copy the following form and send it to Mrs. Olds with your check payable to Golden Gate Audubon Society. (Tickets will not be sent; your check is your receipt.)

Enclosed is my check for \$.....for.....dinners at \$4.

Name..... Phone.....

Address

.....Check here if a ride is needed from bus stop at foot of University Ave.

FIELD TRIPS FOR JUNE-JULY

Saturday, June 14, to north side of Mt. Tamalpais. We shall hike along the shores of three lovely wooded lakes where a variety of birds can be seen and heard. Three Pileated Woodpeckers highlighted this trip in 1967. The field trip will begin **promptly at 8:30 a.m.** from the public parking lot in Fairfax. Bring *knapsack lunch*. Leaders: Miss Patricia Triggs and Mrs. Olga Laist.

During the early part of June if you wish to see nesting Bank Swallows, walk along the beach near San Francisco's Fleishhacker Zoo.

Saturday-Sunday, July 12-13, to McArthur-Burney Falls State Park and Lassen Volcanic National Park in Shasta County. Saturday's trip will take us to the nesting area of the Black Swifts. On a previous trip to this region we also saw 5 adult Bald Eagles on a nearby lake. Sunday's trip to Mt. Lassen should produce nesting Dippers as well as other birds. The distance from the Bay Area is 285 miles; allow at least 5½ hours driving time. On **Saturday** we shall meet at the McArthur-Burney Falls State Park Headquarters at **9 a.m.** and at the same place **Sunday at 8 a.m.** If you wish to camp at Burney Falls, ask for a State camping reservation form from the State Parks and Recreation Dept. in San Francisco (885-1216) or write to that Department, P.O. Box 2390, Sacramento, CA 95811. There is \$1 reservation charge in addition to the regular campsite fee of \$3 per night. For those who prefer a motel, we have asked the Charm Motel in the town of Burney to set aside 8 units. Make your Motel reservations by contacting Mr. and Mrs. Mathews at the Charm Motel **before June 15** and let them know you are with the Golden Gate Audubon Society. (P.O. Box 57, Burney, CA 96013, Tel. (916) 335-2255.) Tourist guide books list additional motels. As on previous long-distance trips, there will be \$1 field trip charge for adults.—Leader, A. WARREN LARSON, 525-9149

(NOTE—Please be very careful when smoking on field trips. On a recent drive up Mt. Diablo many of us were saddened to see that more than 1,000 acres of chaparral and digger pines had been destroyed by last year's fire—including some of our best birding areas.)

SEPTEMBER BOAT TRIP—Saturday, September 6, boat trip off Monterey. This trip has been planned to observe and study pelagic birds and mammals. Fare: \$7 per person; make check payable to Golden Gate Audubon Society and send to Mrs. Valeria G. DaCosta, 2090 Pacific Ave. San Francisco 94109, with a stamped, self-addressed envelope enclosed. Deadline for reservations will be **August 15** (or earlier if boats are filled). Details will be sent with acknowledgment. **If the oil keeps flowing out of the Santa Barbara Channel (still over a thousand gallons a day) our 1969 boat trips could be the last.**—MRS. VALERIA G. DaCOSTA, *Field Trips Chairman*.

OAKLAND PARK NATURALIST TO LEAD SATURDAY WALKS

The Oakland Park Department's *Naturalist Program* for June lists two Saturday morning walks:

June 14, "Joaquin's Hilltops and Palo Seco Canyon Nature Ramble," meeting Naturalist at Ranger Station off Joaquin Miller Road at Sanborn Drive, **9:30 a.m.** and finish by noon.

June 28, "Late Blooms and Summer Birds in Redwood and Chaparral," a walk with the Naturalist, meeting at Sequoia Arena Gate off Skyline Blvd. at **9:30 a.m.** and ending at noon.

AUDUBON NATURE TRAINING NEWS

April was a banner month for the Audubon Nature Training program at Aquatic Park in Berkeley. A \$2000 grant was received from the Sears Roebuck Foundation. Thanks to this very generous gift, we now have sufficient funds to finance the balance of the spring term. We are also grateful for anonymous gifts totalling \$550 and a gift from the Alameda County Colony of the Society of Mayflower Descendants.

Audubon Nature Training received national recognition through the participation of Phyllis Lindley on a panel on Environmental Education in Urban America at the National Audubon Convention in St. Louis. Her presentation started with the involvement of the audience through exploration of a "mystery object". A California touch was added by the use of eucalyptus seed pods as the mystery object. Slides were also shown with an accompanying narrative description of the program. We feel honored that Audubon Nature Training was selected to represent the West on this coast to coast panel.

The girls of Codornices Council of Camp Fire Girls presented Audubon Nature Training with 2485 "Nickels for Nature" which they had collected. The Nickels for Nature Program was inaugurated by National Audubon Bay Area Educational Services to stimulate the interest of youngsters in keeping their own neighborhoods beautiful. Over 200 Camp Fire Girls with their leaders came to Aquatic Park for refreshments, nature games, and the presentation of the "Nickels". We were particularly pleased that the Berkeley Adult School, which publicizes and participates financially in our program, was represented by the Principal, Dr. James M. Preston, and the Vice-Principal, Mr. Edwin K. Knudson. Congratulations to Mrs. Virginia Miller, Director of the Council, and Mrs. Barbara Robinson, Program Chairman, for arranging this excellent program, and thanks to them for choosing Audubon Nature Training as the first recipient of "Nickels for Nature".

POINT REYES BIRD OBSERVATORY NEWS

The Point Reyes Bird Observatory will further its research program on the Farallon Islands this year. Since April 1968 a full-time biologist has been stationed on the islands carrying out studies on the breeding birds and the land bird migrants. The studies on the breeding birds largely concentrated this past year on the effects of human disturbance on the breeding success of the Western Gull, Common Murre and the Brandt's Cormorant. This research anticipates the transfer of the south Farallon Island from the jurisdiction of the Coast Guard to the Fish and Wildlife Service. This will assist the Service in establishing a policy on visitors to the islands when it becomes a National Wildlife Refuge.

This past year's work on migrants on the Farallones produced many interesting records of land birds which were off course and landed on the islands. Many birds were vagrants including, for instance, several Eastern warblers seldom recorded in California. This program will continue through the coming migration seasons.

Volunteers are needed to help in the Farallon project as well as at the Observatory's headquarters on the Point Reyes National Seashore near Bolinas. Anyone who would like to take part in these projects should plan on taking the Observatory's Banding Training program. For more information about the program and about participation on the Farallones write to the Director, Point Reyes Bird Observatory, Bolinas, CA 94924.

A new biologist, Mr. Robert Stewart, has been added (temporarily unless funding can be found) to the staff of the Observatory to study land birds in the headquarters area. Mr. Stewart has a Master's degree from Oregon State University and was a high school teacher until joining the staff of the Observatory.

Mr. Stewart's primary responsibilities are the coordination of the volunteer program and the study of land birds around the Observatory headquarters in which information is being gathered about the timing and abundance of breeding and migrant birds. This basic information is necessary if we are to intelligently preserve birds. Without accurate information about their requirements, steps that we may take to preserve their habitat may actually be destructive.

DREDGING AND OIL DRILLING VS. WHOOPING CRANES

It's difficult to say which is a bigger threat to the Whooping Crane's habitat and food supply at Aransas National Wildlife Refuge—the shell dredging along the Texas gulf coast or the oil and gas drilling there. The first threat, the dredging, would be alleviated by proposals now before the state legislature. One bill, introduced by State Rep. Will L. Smith of Beaumont and several colleagues, would stop all dredging along the coast for five years. A second bill, sponsored by Rep. R. H. Cory of Victoria, would create a sanctuary, where dredging would be prohibited, in the waters around Aransas and the adjoining National Audubon refuge. If these areas remain unprotected, the dredges that already have done so much damage in the outer bay will move in across the shallows. They will deepen the waters and cover everything with a layer of black sediment—killing the food supply for the small fishes that are, in turn, the Whooping Cranes' food supply.

The drilling is another matter. Oil companies hold minerals rights in and around the refuge and even if there is never another Santa Barbara episode, *there is a persistent threat*. Continued oil drilling will mean an ever-increasing tanker traffic in the refuge area. It will mean a continuing pressure for more access roads into the area. And the more man encroaches upon the little land left to the cranes the more he endangers their survival. (*Audubon Leader's Conservation Guide*, April 11.)

APRIL FIELD TRIP REPORTS

April 12, Audubon Canyon Ranch. After the Ranch Naturalist, C. W. Zumwalt, conducted our group through the new Nature Center, we hiked up to the overlook where we had excellent views of the Great Blue Herons

feeding their young and Common Egrets busily turning their eggs. On April 27 the hardy seafarers trip to the Farallon Islands attracted 111 passengers, including San Francisco *Examiner* reporter Jim Schermerhorn and photographer Paul Glines. The trip was highlighted by 3 Black-footed Albatross, over 200 Black-legged Kittiwakes and 7 Tufted Puffins. An article on this trip will appear in a forthcoming issue of the Sunday *Examiner* in the "California Living" section. Trip leaders were Dr. Ronald Branson, Ted Chandik, Dave DeSante and Rich Stallcup.—MRS. VALERIA G. DaCOSTA, *Field Trips Chairman*.

OBSERVATIONS—March 19, Ruth and Ted Dement saw a European Widgeon near Merced Wildlife Area. April 8, Jack Guggolz reported Bohemian Waxwings in Richmond. April 16, Townsend's Solitaire 16 miles south of Livermore near Timna Foundation Lodge (upper Mincks Rd.) observed by Gertrude Bialos and Vi Homem. April 22, Mountain Quail on Mt. St. Helena observed by Adah Pride, Margaret Zeff, Florence Fisher and Marge Dana. May 2, Bertha Underhill saw a Roadrunner on Mt. Diablo.

MARIN TRAILS—A NEW GUIDE

Nine Marin Audubon Society field trips, among other explorations, are described in *Marin Trails*, a pocket-size guide to walking and canoeing in Marin County by Ida Geary, Editor of Marin Audubon's *Redwood Log*. The new guide presents detailed descriptions of six walks on Mount Tamalpais, seven in West Marin, and many others. Additional articles describe collecting mushrooms (with Dr. Robert T. Orr), photographing nature and weaving with native plants (with David Cavagnaro), tidcpooling, making mushroom spore prints and specimen plant prints. The book is illustrated with the author's plant prints of native trees, shrubs and flowers. *Marin Trails* may be ordered at the pre-publication price of \$2.50 per copy by writing Tamal Land Press, 39 Merwin Ave., Fairfax, CA 94930. The book will be in Bay Area bookstores in June.

AUDUBON CANYON RANCH MEMORIAL GIFTS

The following gifts of remembrance were made to Canyon Ranch:

In Memory of:	Gift of:
Dr. C. Earle Clement	Mr. & Mrs. H. F. Twining, Mr. & Mrs. Clyde Toland, Ralph and Alicia Coffey, Ed and Harriet Lane, Mr. & Mrs. R. Eubank, Viola Stoner Laidley, Mary Laidley Lenahan, Evelyn K. Reinle.
Franklin B. Wright	Mr. & Mrs. F. L. Schuder
Eva Duvander	Mr. & Mrs. Frank Walrond
Mrs. Beulah Teasdel	Mrs. R. G. Follis
Mrs. Susan M. Alexander	Ruth M. Hutchinson

—DR. ALBERT BOLES, *Sanctuary & Memorial Fund Chairman*



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Established January 25, 1917 A Branch of the National Audubon Society since 1948

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Canyon Ranch Film Crmn.	Mrs. Bonnie Smith	555 Dewey Blvd., San Francisco	94116	681-7635

Send address changes to Membership Secretary promptly; Post Office does not forward THE GULL. Monthly meetings second Thursday 7:30 p.m. Joint membership, Local & National \$10 per year, includes AUDUBON MAGAZINE and THE GULL. Subscription to THE GULL separately \$2 per year.

The *Gull* deadline is the first of the month for the following month.